

Amphibia, Anura, Centrolenidae, *Vitreorana uranoscopa* (Müller, 1924): Distribution extension in the state of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

Iberê Farina Machado^{1*}, Leonardo Felipe Bairos Moreira¹, Roger Borges da Silva², Rafael Gustavo Becker² and Alex Sandro Oliveira Mesquita²

¹ Universidade do Vale do Rio dos Sinos – UNISINOS, Laboratório de Ecologia e Conservação de Ecossistemas Aquáticos. Avenida Unisinos, 950. CEP 93022-000. São Leopoldo, RS, Brazil.

² Biota Soluções Ambientais. Caixa Postal 05. CEP 93800-000, Sapiranga, RS, Brazil.

* Corresponding author. E-mail: iberemachado@gmail.com

ABSTRACT: The glass frog *Vitreorana uranoscopa* (Müller, 1924) has been considered a vulnerable species for the state of Rio Grande do Sul, southern Brazil. This note recorded the presence of the species for São Marcos municipality, extending the species distribution towards eastern region of the state.

The genus *Vitreorana* currently comprises eight species of glass frogs occurring at elevations below 1,900 m in the Cordillera de la Costa of Venezuela, Guiana Shield, Amazonia of Brazil, Colombia and Ecuador, and in the Atlantic Forest of Brazil and Argentina (Lima *et al.* 2006; Guayasamin *et al.* 2009). In Brazil, the genus include the species *Vitreorana oyampiensis* (Lescure, 1975), *Vitreorana eurygnatha* (Lutz, 1925), *Vitreorana parvula* (Boulenger, 1895), and *Vitreorana uranoscopa* (Müller, 1924) (Lima *et al.* 2006; Guayasamin *et al.* 2009).

To date *Vitreorana uranoscopa* is known from southeastern and southern Brazil (Eterovick *et al.* 2005; Garcia and Vinciprova 1998), and northeastern Misiones, Argentina (Stetson 2001). In the state of Rio Grande do Sul, specimens of *V. uranoscopa* were recorded only in municipality of Barracão (Garcia and Vinciprova 1998). Herein, we present a new location for *V. uranoscopa*, broadening its distribution in the state of Rio Grande do Sul (Figure 1).

During bimonthly field expeditions between November 2008 and November 2009, we found specimens of *V. uranoscopa* (Figure 2A and B) in the barrage of Environmental Protection Area of the Pequena Central Hidrelétrica São Marcos along a small stream tributary of the São Marcos river (Figure 2B) (29°02'10" S, 51°05'31" W; 532 m above sea level). Individuals were found over the year with vocalization activity in August until December, and ovoposition in November 2009 (Figure 2C and D). Maximum abundance was recorded in December, when six males and two females were found. The local flora belongs to the region phytoecological Araucaria forest (Teixeira *et al.* 1986) on the deciduous forest ecosystems that are considered to be associated with the Atlantic Forest (Brasil 2006).

Voucher specimens are deposited at the Museu de Ciências e Tecnologia da Pontifícia Universidade Católica

do Rio Grande do Sul (MCP 9986 and MCP 9987) (License IBAMA - 207/2008). The present record extends species range *ca.* 154 km, towards eastern region of the state of Rio Grande do Sul, in a straight line from the previous report at São Marcos municipality (Figure 2). In the state of Rio Grande do Sul, *V. uranoscopa* has been considered a rare species, showing small populations with restrict distribution in preserved fragments of riparian forest (Garcia and Vinciprova 2003). For this reason, the species has been classified as vulnerable in the red list of threatened species from the state of Rio Grande do Sul (Fontana *et al.* 2003). This report presents a small population that occupies a protected area in the southern distribution of the genus in Brazil.

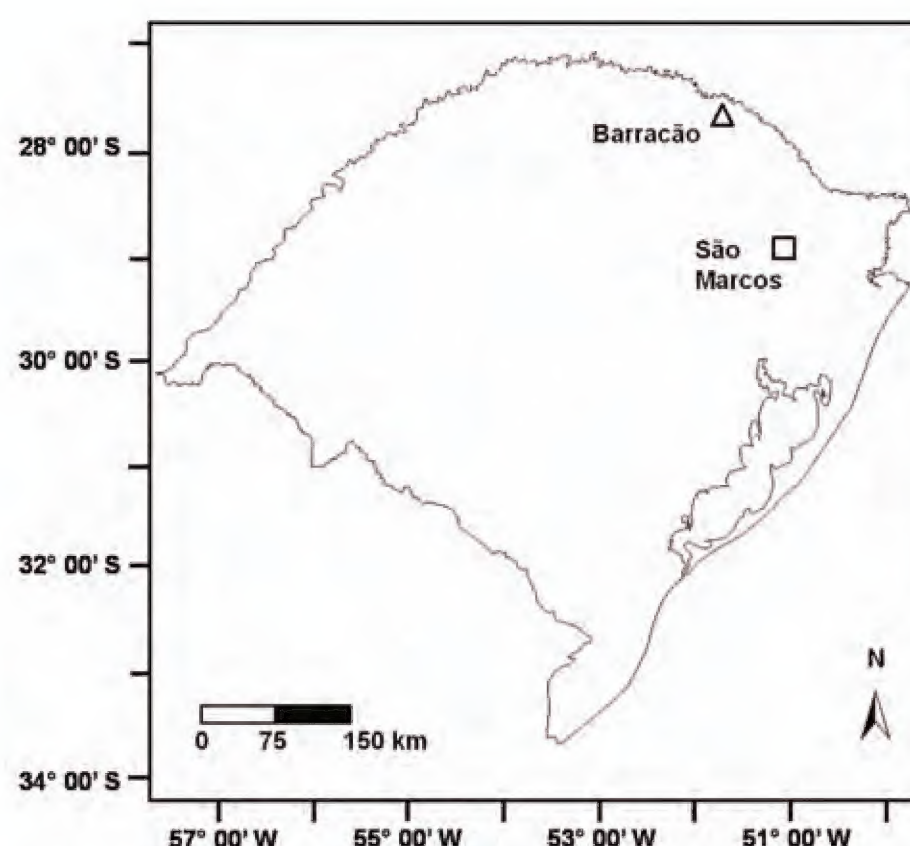


FIGURE 1. Map of the state of Rio Grande do Sul showing the Área de Proteção Permanente da Pequena Central Hidrelétrica de São Marcos (square) and the municipality of Barracão (triangle).



FIGURE 2. (A) General vegetation of the area, (B) Small stream habitat (C) Ovoposition on leaves and, (D) Male of *Vitreorana uranoscopa* from Área de Proteção Permanente da Pequena Central Hidrelétrica de São Marcos, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. Photos by Iberê F. Machado.

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